

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY
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FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 6709

BILL NUMBER: SB 289

NOTE PREPARED: Feb 22, 2007

BILL AMENDED:

SUBJECT: Explanation of Proposed Constitutional Amendments.

FIRST AUTHOR: Sen. Dillon

FIRST SPONSOR: Rep. V. Smith

BILL STATUS: As Passed Senate

FUNDS AFFECTED: X GENERAL
DEDICATED
FEDERAL

IMPACT: State & Local

Summary of Legislation: The bill requires the Legislative Council to prepare a concise and neutral summary of any proposed state constitutional amendment. The bill requires the Legislative Council to distribute a copy of the summary to various entities and post the summary on the General Assembly's Internet web site not later than 60 days before the election at which the proposed amendment is submitted to the voters.

The bill requires a copy of the summary to be posted at each polling place. The bill provides that the Legislative Council has absolute discretion to determine the contents of the summary, and prohibits the bringing of an action based on the exercise of this discretion.

Effective Date: July 1, 2007.

Explanation of State Expenditures: The preparation and distribution of constitutional amendment summaries would likely require additional administrative time of the Legislative Council and the Election Division.

The Election Division would be required to provide each county election board with a summary of a proposed constitutional amendment. The Election Division should be able to provide summaries within their existing level of resources. The Office of Secretary of State reverted \$149,755 to the General Fund at the end of FY 2006. The Election Division spent approximately \$23,000 for printing and \$8,300 for postage in FY 2006.

Explanation of State Revenues:

Explanation of Local Expenditures: County election boards would need to forward copies of amendment summaries to precinct election boards. County election boards should be able to accomplish this provision within existing levels of resources and staff.

Explanation of Local Revenues:

State Agencies Affected: Legislative Council, Legislative Services Agency, Election Division.

Local Agencies Affected: County election boards.

Information Sources: State Budget Agency: FY 2006 General Fund Reversion Summary, Auditor's Object Trial Balance 6/30/2006.

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